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WASHINGTON

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NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

WASHINGTON



THE magnificent Capital of the United States of America occupies a well-selected location on the banks of the Potomac, one hundred and six miles from where the mouth of this historic river meets the waters of Chesapeake Bay. It is perhaps the only city in the world which was definitely planned and laid out on a large scale when its population numbered only a few hundred. After listening to the rival claims of the ambitious young cities of the Republic, Congress established the seat of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia by an act approved by President George Washington, July 16, 1790. The new city suffered by fire at the hands of the British in 1814, and although the disproportionate relation of the actual city to the ambitious plans caused Washington to be termed "The City of Magnificent Distances," for many years, it grew by leaps and bounds after the close of the great Civil War, and now stands peerless among the beautiful capitals of the nations of the earth.

Here are located all the huge administrative buildings of the government, and the fact that the city is the center of political activity in the United States has brought about the existence of unsurpassed hotels, luxurious clubs, splendid cafes and palatial private residences.

Washington long ago ceased to be the subject for sarcasm and achieved fame as the object of the unreserved admiration of the world. It is a treasure house of the finest architecture, beautiful specimens of sculpture, rare paintings, and of all that is and should be permanently safe guarded and worthy of preservation as the highest type of present day American art endeavor, and remains also the objective point for the master minds of the Republic selected from every section of the country by the votes of a free people.

Washington—most appropriately named—shall exist forever as an enduring monument to the sagacity and foresight of the "Father of His Country"—the pride of every American citizen.

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THE CAPITOL

The National Capitol occupies a commanding position on Capitol Hill about one and one-third miles from the White House. The great structure covers nearly four acres and ranks among the supreme architectural triumphs of the world. Priceless statuary and paintings adorn the building. The splendid landscape gardening of the spacious Capitol grounds much improves the grace and beauty of the whole pile.



SUPREME COURT ROOM—CAPITOL BUILDING

In this semi-circular hall sits the great court of final appeal for the United States of America. The Chief Justice and the eight associate justices are seated on the Bench in front of the screen of Ionic columns, and listen to the pleas of the best legal talent of the country from the open space in front. The seats outside the railing are given over to the public.



HALL OF REPRESENTATIVES—CAPITOL BUILDING

In this unrivalled legislative chamber the representatives of the people conduct their deliberations. The speaker's desk is of pure white marble and the seats of the members are arranged in concentric semi-circles. Opening off the hall in the rear of the speaker's desk is the famous "Lobby." Beautiful marble stairways lead to the galleries which are open to the public.



SENATE CHAMBER—CAPITOL BUILDING

The Senators representing the great commonwealths of the republic meet in this roomy hall, located in the north wing of the Capitol. The dais of the President of the Senate's desk is the point about which all the concentric rows of the members' seats radiate. The walls are richly adorned with regal decorations enhanced by the mellow light which strikes through the allegorical glass ceiling. The smaller rooms connected with the Senate Chamber contain many art treasures.



THE WHITE HOUSE

The cornerstone of this stately building was laid in 1792 by George Washington. The edifice was burned by the British in 1814 and the white coat of paint applied to obliterate the signs of fire was responsible for the popular name of this Executive Mansion. In 1902-03 the building was remodeled to suit the growing needs of the nation's chief.



EAST ROOM—WHITE HOUSE

The grand corridor is reached by a stairway from which access may be had to the famous East Room. This splendid apartment is finished in white and gold, and three striking crystal chandeliers depend from the beautiful ceiling. This room is used for all public receptions and is open to visitors from 10 a. m. to 12 p. m. except on holidays and Sundays.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING

The White House was found to be inadequate to serve both as the office and residence of the President as well as for the executive sessions of the Nation's Chief and his various secretaries; consequently a new building was erected for the executive office where persons having business with the President are received from 12 to 1 o'clock on all days except holidays and Sundays. It is located on the west side of the White House and connected by a broad esplanade with the older building.



THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

THE CABINET ROOM

In the new Executive office building is located the business office of the President and his secretaries and assistants, also the office room employed for the deliberations of the Cabinet. These office rooms are very plainly furnished, and only national business matters are transacted here. They are destined to acquire more historical interest as years go by and these rooms become noted as the place where grave national policies have been decided.



GENERAL VIEW OF WASHINGTON

The projectors of Washington assumed that the city would grow toward the east, but as a matter of fact, the development has been mainly westward of the Capitol. A beautiful view of the city is afforded from the western terrace of the Capitol. The smooth asphalted surface of broad Pennsylvania Avenue gleams across the vista reaching to the impressive front of the Treasury Building in the middle distance.



EAST FROM WASHINGTON MONUMENT

In this view is included the beautiful landscape of the Mall and the Public and Botanical Gardens. The Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum are shown in the foreground, as a striking center. The hills of Virginia on the opposite side of the Potomac may be seen reaching to the distant horizon, while the Potomac for miles above and below the city is clearly distinguishable.



THE NEW WASHINGTON TERMINAL

This, the finest railway station in the world, affords a most fitting and dignified entrance to the great Capital of the Republic. It is built to accord with a great plan for beautifying and developing the city, and the terminal improvements and station will total in cost to over \$18,000,000. Its architectural treatment has been drawn from the famous triumphal arches of ancient Rome. The passenger concourse will be 700 feet long by 130 feet wide. The State entrance is in the east pavilion.



PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Magnificent hotels and stores and many of the great office buildings of the government are located on this splendid approach to the Capitol. The pointed tower on the right rises from the General Post Office Building, and at the left looms the famous front of the the new Willard Hotel. The stately dome of the Capitol is a fitting perspective in this splendid thoroughfare.



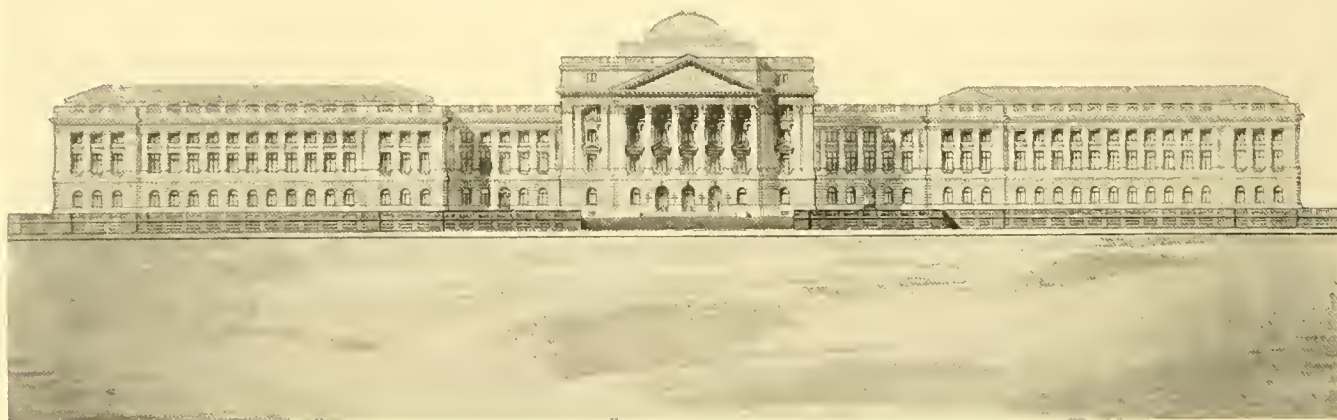
STATE, WAR AND NAVY BUILDING

West of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue and Seventeenth Street stands this largest and most magnificent office building in the world. The War Department occupies the west wing, the Navy Department the east wing, and the State Department the south wing. The five hundred rooms included in this building are connected by over several miles of marble corridors and are given over entirely to the use of the three great executive departments.



TREASURY BUILDING

East of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue and Fifteenth Street, this perfect architectural conception strikes the most fastidious eye with pleasing effect. An impression of solidity and security is given by the noble fronts generously adorned with beautiful Ionic columns. In the basement of this building are great gold, silver and bond vaults filled with specie and securities and carefully guarded.



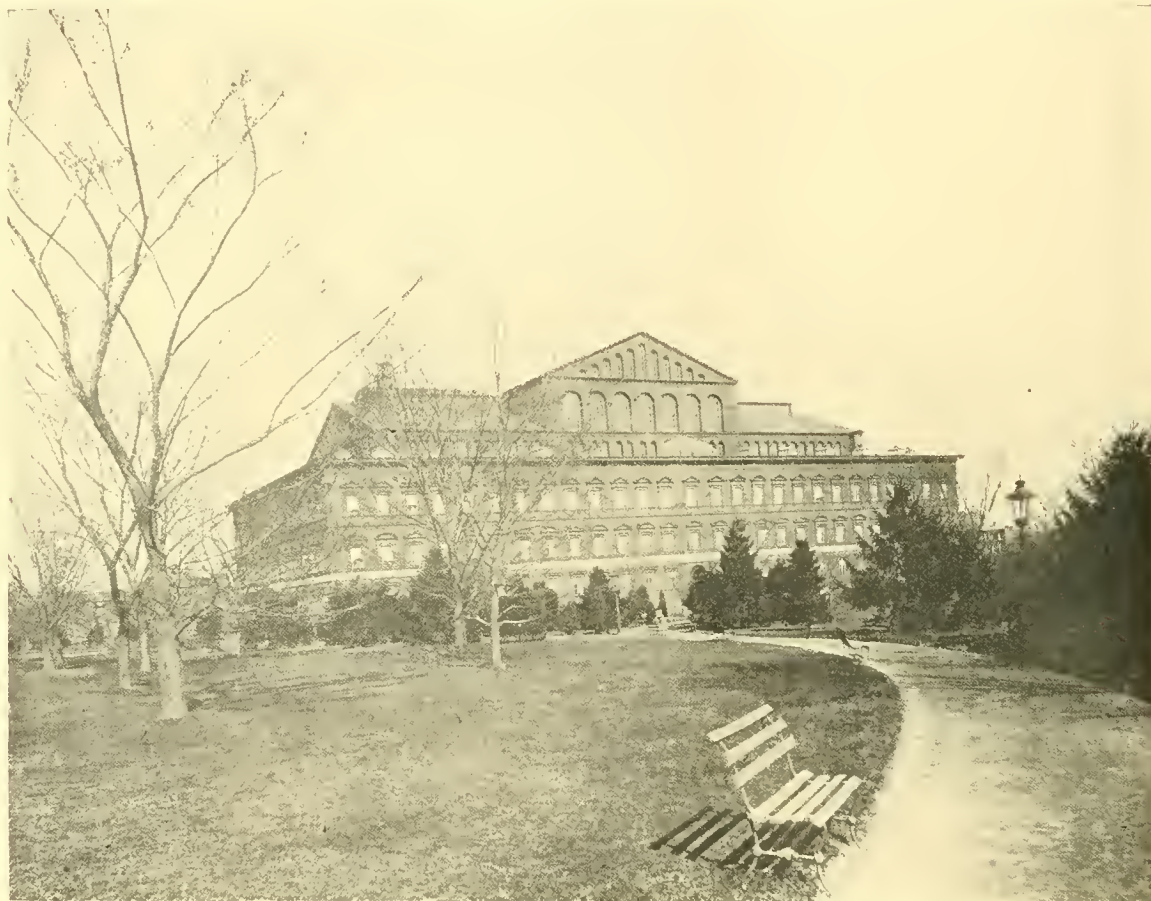
THE NEW AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT BUILDING

This splendid building is destined to house the ever-increasing business force of the Department of Agriculture. When completed, it will be one of the most interesting office buildings in Washington. Here will be permanently located a great museum of various agricultural products, illustrating their growth, and their industrial and commercial value.



PATENT OFFICE

The square from F to G and Seventh to Ninth streets is occupied by an immense building in which the business of the Department of the Interior is transacted, but known everywhere as the Patent Office. To the visitor the four halls on the second floor are extremely interesting. Here is preserved a comprehensive display of the labors of numberless American and foreign inventors. The whole development of many great mechanical devices may be accurately studied in this museum of models.



PENSION BUILDING

The Pension Building consists of a great court protected by a lofty roof of iron and glass, and surrounded by galleries rising one above the other, which contain tiers of offices. An immense total of three billions and one-half of dollars has been paid to pensioners of the United States since the War of the Revolution. No other nation in the world has approached anywhere near this generous record. The enormous business is handled readily with perfect system.



BUREAU OF PRINTING AND ENGRAVING

This is the manufacturing branch of the Treasury Department located at the corner of Fourteenth and B streets, S. W. Great care surrounds the process of engraving and printing currency and a thorough system of checking the daily work is in use. In this department are printed government bonds, national currency, postage and revenue stamps, military, naval and diplomatic commissions, charts, passports, etc.



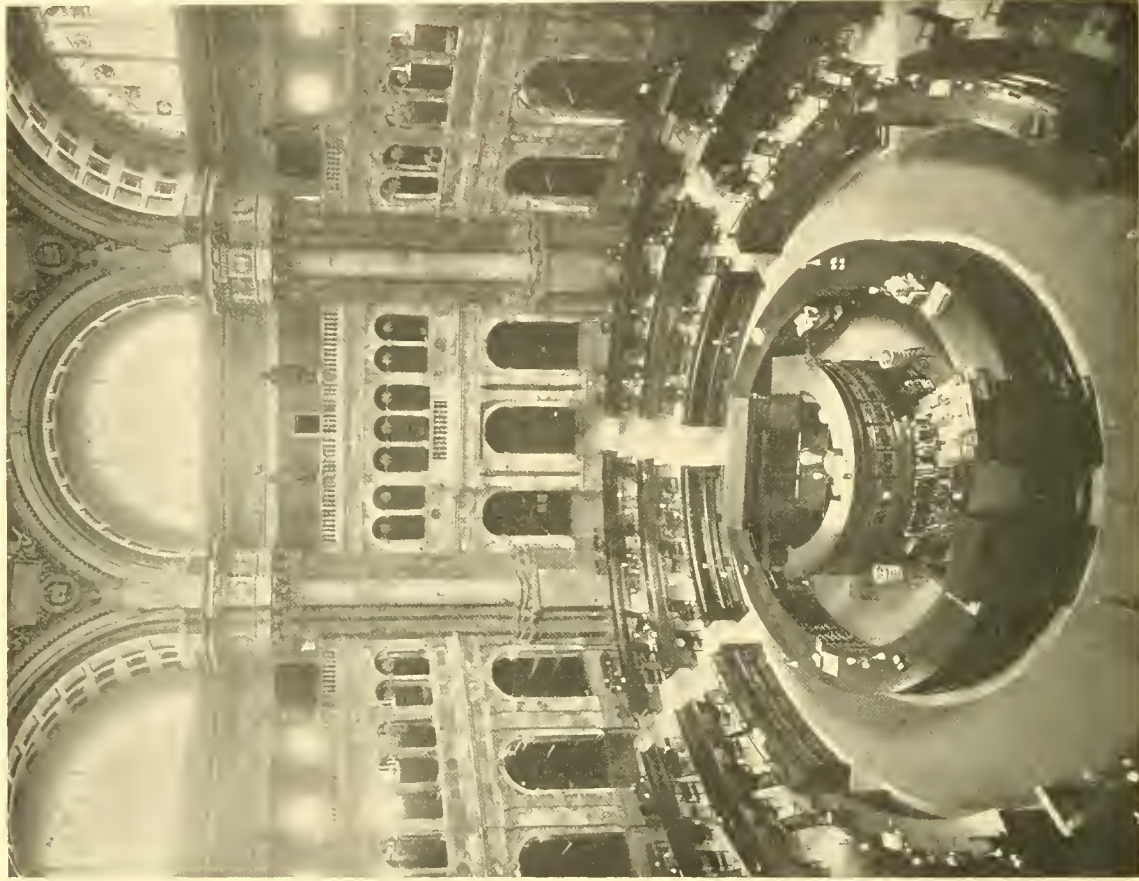
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

This splendid institution was named in honor of James Smithson, an Englishman, who died in 1829 and bequeathed his entire property as a foundation for "an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." The building is located in the southern end of the Smithsonian Grounds on the Mall near B Street between Tenth and Eleventh streets. The institution is in the care of the National Government. Here are preserved thousands of natural history specimens and prehistoric antiquities.



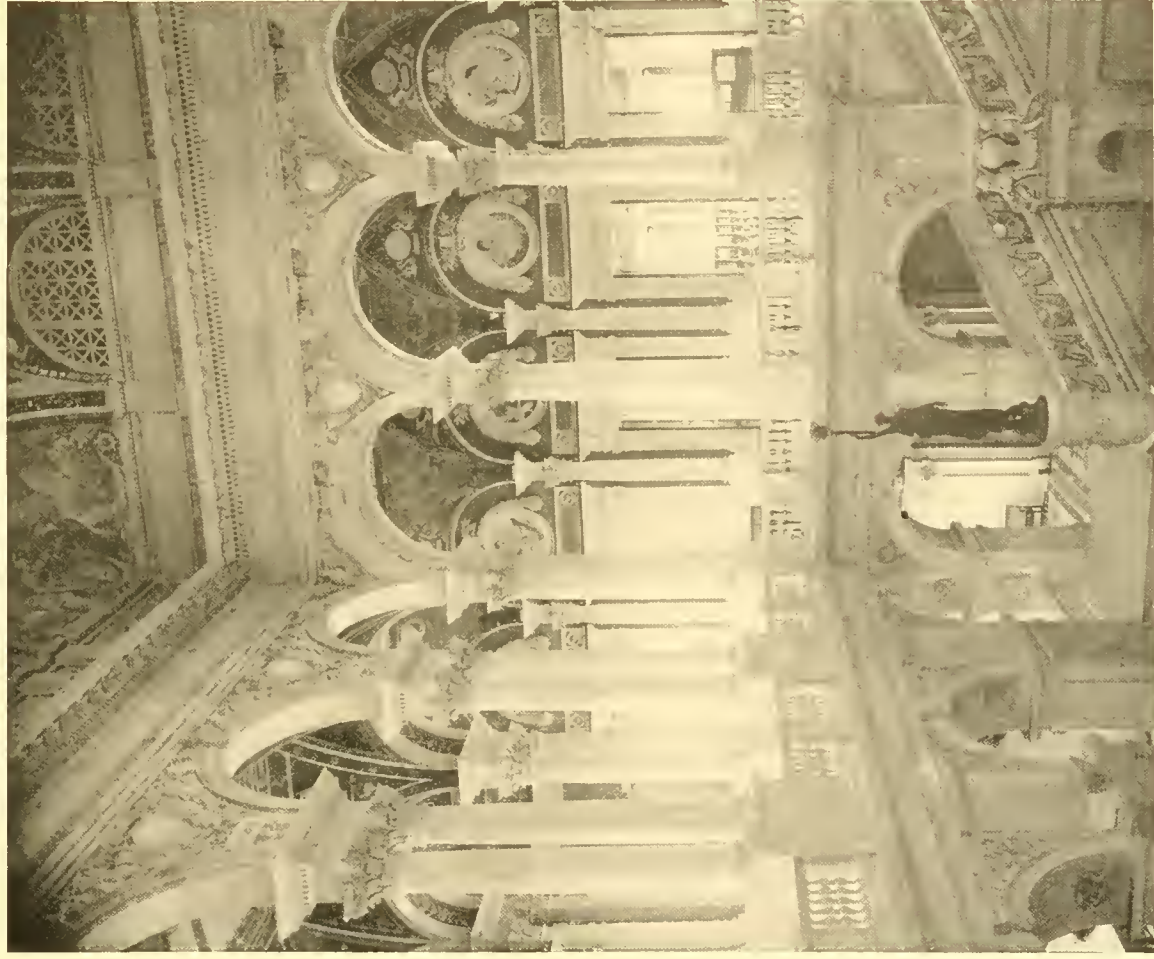
CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

This marvelous achievement of American art and architecture stands pre-eminent among the libraries of the world. The front of the structure faces upon First Street and the other walls are viewed from East Capitol, Second and B streets. The architectural scheme is of a great central rotunda where the reading room is located, with radiating book stacks enclosed in a parallelogram of galleries and pavilions. The massive gilded dome surmounts three stories of the main structure.



READING ROOM ROTUNDA—CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

Beneath the great dome of the library building is the magnificent rotunda of the reading room, the central and most important portion of the edifice. It would be difficult to find an interior where richer materials or more lavish decorations have been united to produce a more inspiring effect.



GRAND STAIRWAY—CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

These beautiful creations of genius with their white marble balustrades, rising from both sides of the wonderful entrance hall of the Congressional Library, are the work of Philip Martin. The architectural effect is beyond the power of language to describe, and this hall has been declared to be the finest marble hall in existence.



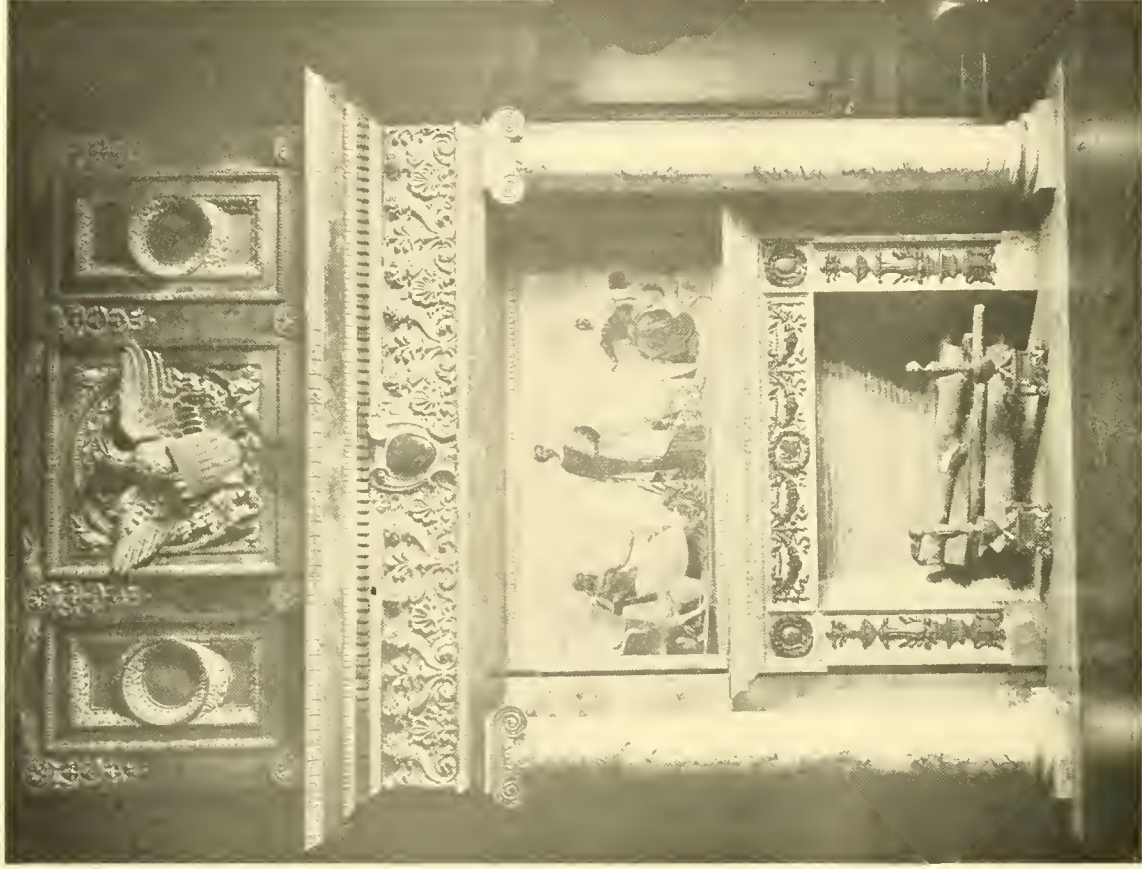
ENTRANCE PAVILION, SOUTH HALL—CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

This hall has been sumptuously decorated with paintings illustrating Poetry by H. O. Walker. A large tympanum at the east end represents the Muse of Lyric Poetry. Six paintings present ideals of youthful subjects derived from Emerson, Wordsworth, Milton, Keats, Shakespeare and Tennyson. Joy and Memory are idealized in the arch in the wall. In the mosaic ceiling are the names of twenty immortal poets from Theocritus to Longfellow.



ENTRANCE PAVILION, EAST HALL—CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

The Evolution of the Book is the subject of the decorations in this hall and it has been wonderfully treated by the master hand of John W. Alexander. The idea is worked out in a series of six panels illustrating respectively, the Cairn, Oral Traditions, Hieroglyphics, the Pictograph, the Manuscript and the Printing Press. The ceiling decorations are emblematic of the arts and sciences with the names of Americans who have earned fame in one or the other.



FIREPLACE, REPRESENTATIVES' READING ROOM—CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

The mosaic mantels by Frederic Dielman are the richest and most beautiful adornments of the Congressional Library. The panel "History" is the more admired of the two in this room. The Muse of History is depicted in the center with recording pen and volume. In the tablets on either side are the names of great historians. On the left sits Mythology and on the right, Tradition. Dimly in the distance may be seen the Pyramids, the Parthenon and the Colosseum.



CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART

This institution was founded and endowed by the late William W. Corcoran, as a gift to the people. It is a beautiful and appropriate storehouse for many original marbles, bronzes, rare paintings, casts and replicas of antique and modern sculpture—in short—it is acknowledged to be one of the great valuable art collections of the world.



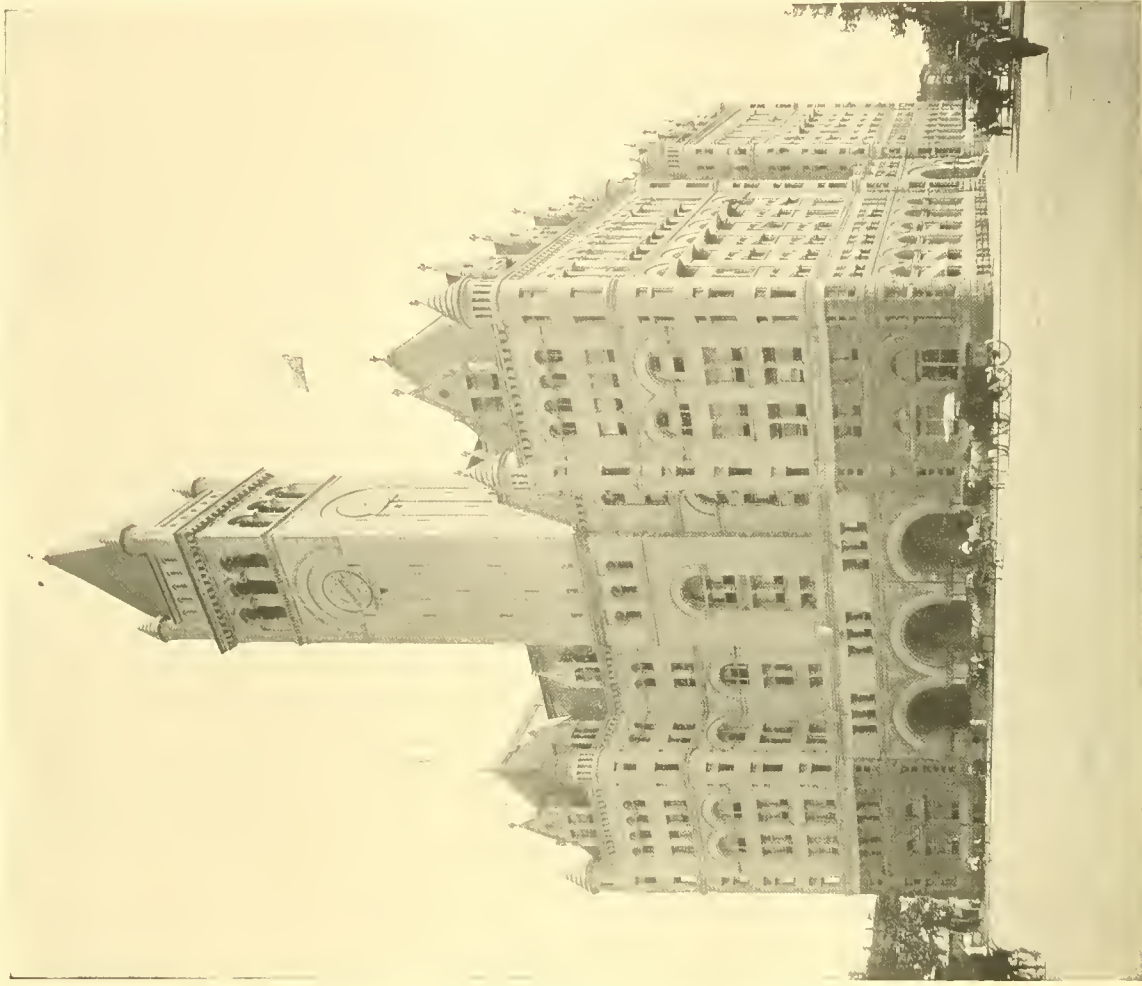
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

An institution supported by an annual appropriation of Congress located on the Mall, B Street between Ninth and Tenth streets, which contains over five million specimens of scientific and artistic objects of interest collected by the Government. It includes many personal relics of distinguished Americans, preserved in the historical section, including those of Washington and Grant.



STATUE OF ARMED LIBERTY

The model, in the National Museum, of Crawford's bronze statue which surmounts the dome of the Capitol. The Sculptor wrote: "She rests upon the shield of our Country; in her right hand she holds the sheathed sword, to show the fight is over for present, but ready for use whenever required. The stars indicate her heavenly origin; her position on the globe her protection of the American world" The helmet was suggested by Jefferson Davis.



POST OFFICE

The postal system of the United States is handled from this great building which faces Pennsylvania Avenue at D and Twelfth streets. It contains the offices of the Postmaster General and his subordinates in charge of the postal service. Twenty thousand pieces of misdirected, illegible or forbidden mail matter are handled here daily in the Dead Letter Office. The latter department contains an interesting museum of postage curios.



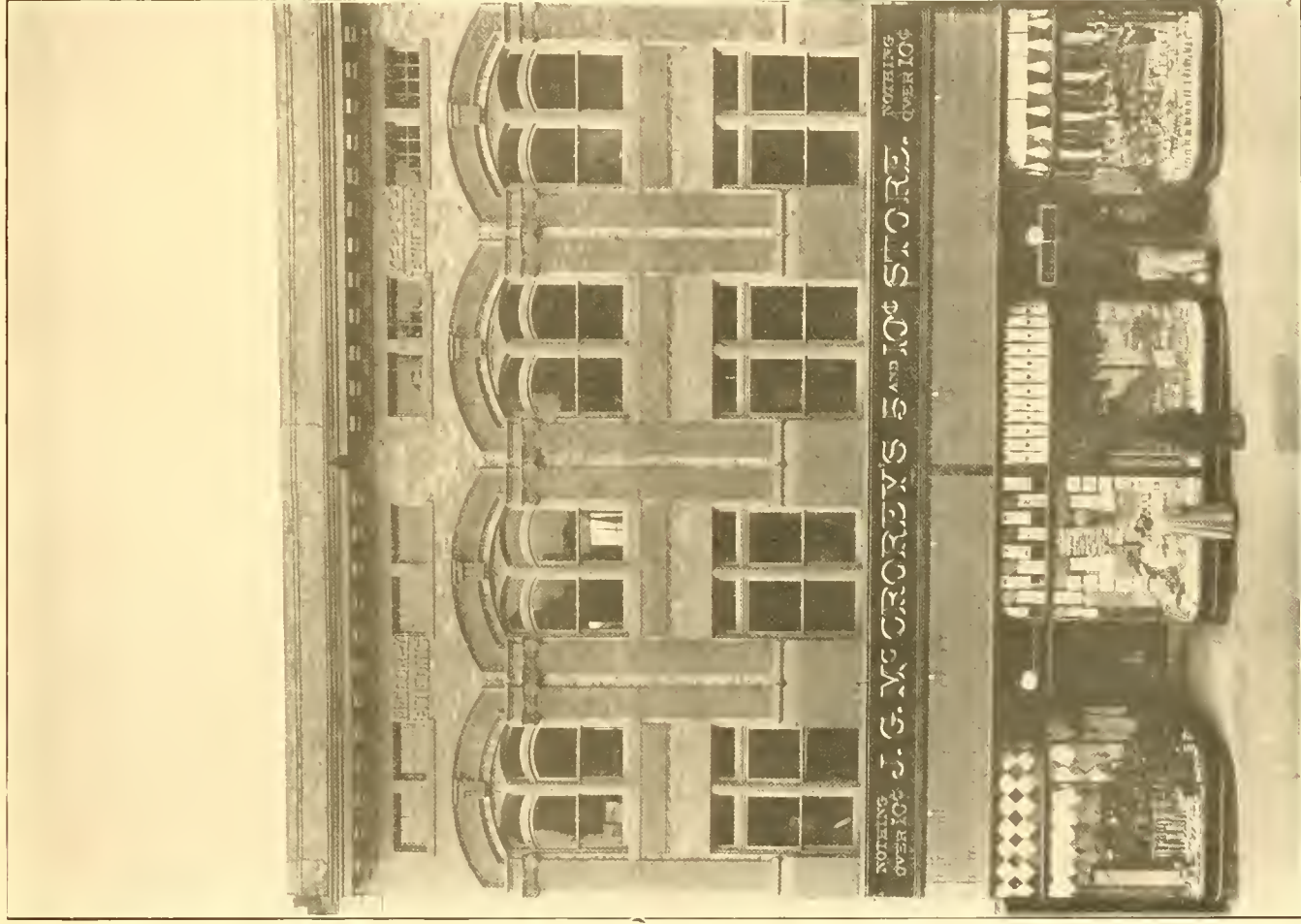
UNITED STATES SOLDIERS' HOME

Three miles north of the Capitol at Michigan Avenue and North Capitol Street. Established and maintained by the Government for the care of veterans of the regular service. Here they are comfortably lodged, fed and clothed and receive medical care and medicine, without cost. The home is surrounded by over five hundred acres of well-kept lawn, slopes and ravines.

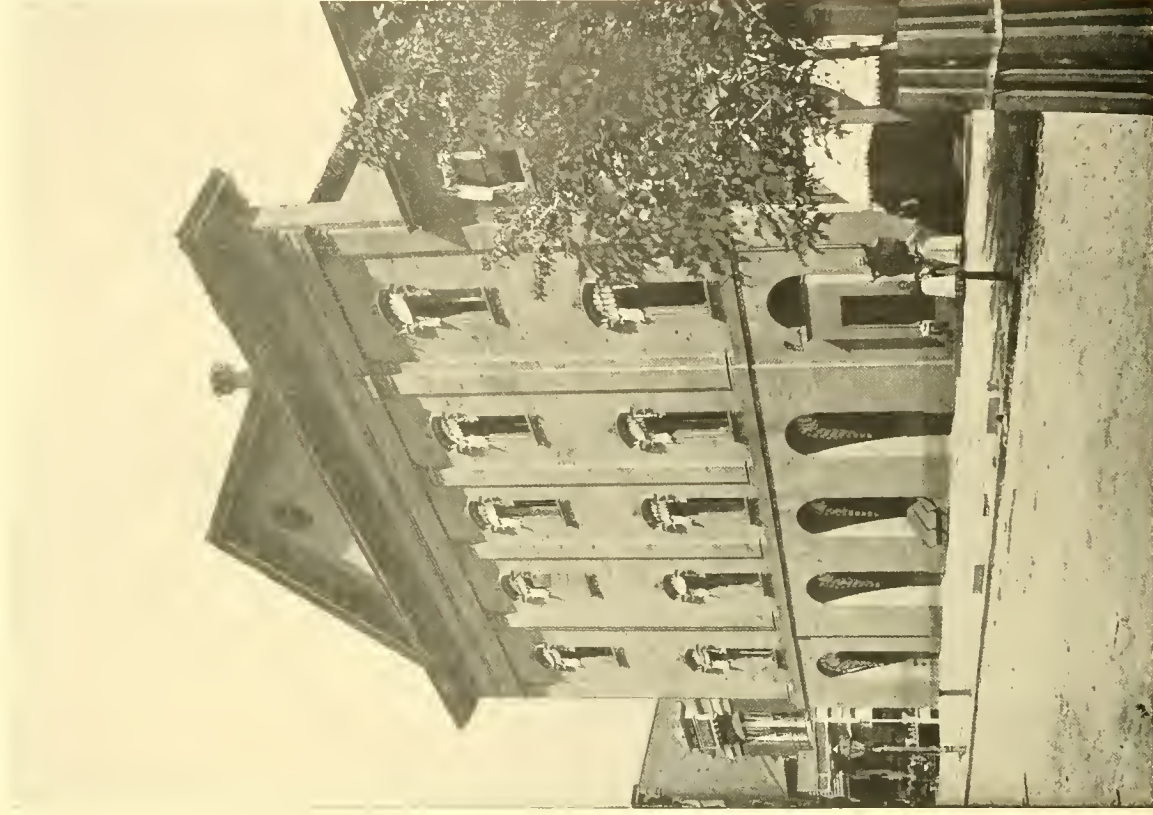


THE NEW WILLARD HOTEL

This magnificent hostelry, located at Pennsylvania Avenue and Fourteenth Street, has a reputation which encircles the globe. It has been the temporary stopping-place of world-renowned statesmen and diplomats, and the scene of many banquets and social occasions of international interest. It is imposing in its exterior appearance and the interior furnishings are but little short of regal.



NEW STORE OF J. G. McCROREY & COMPANY



FORD'S THEATRE

The scene of the great national tragedy of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln on the evening of April 14, 1865. The President and Mrs. Lincoln were enjoying the play "Our American Cousin," when the former was shot by John Wilkes Booth. The house opposite, 510 Tenth Street, in which Mr. Lincoln died, is the repository of a Lincoln Memorial Collection.



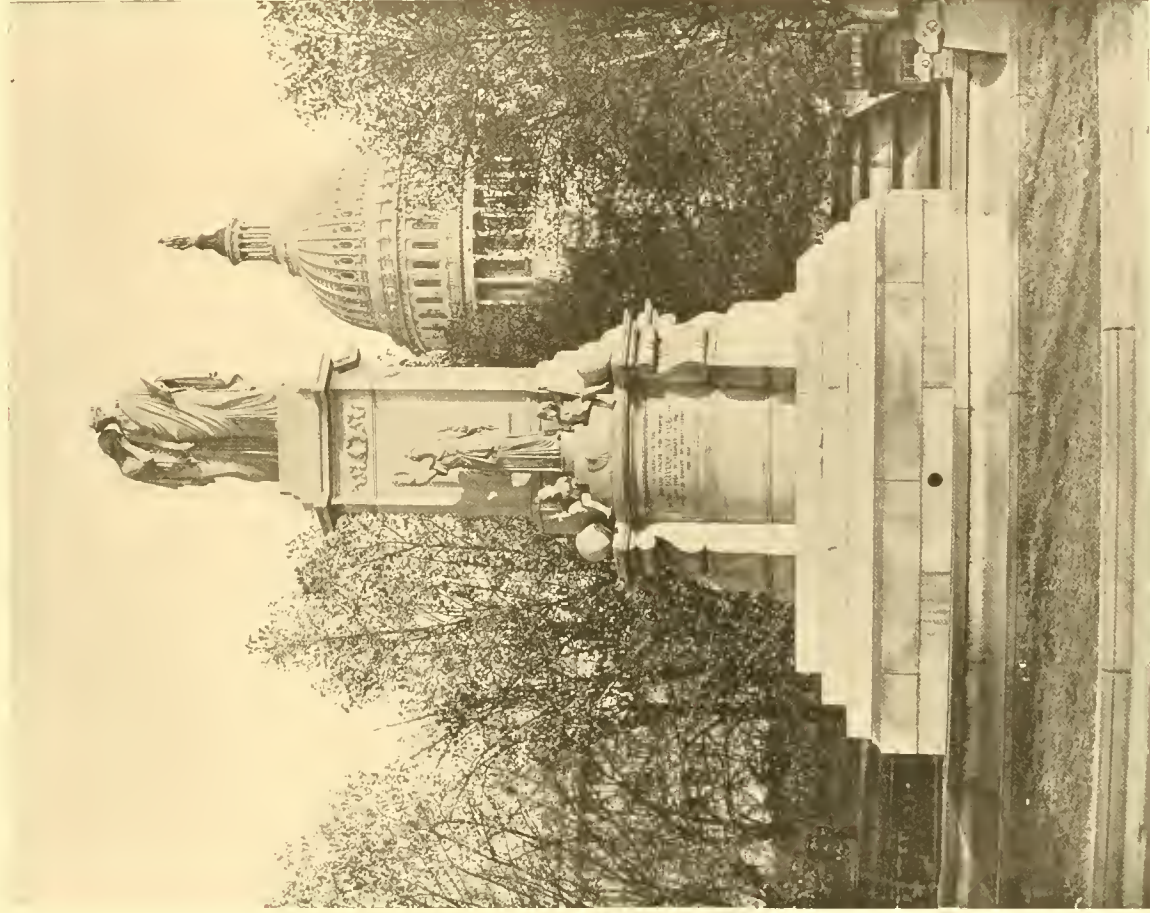
HOME OF ADMIRAL DEWEY

The residence of the gallant officer who destroyed the naval power of Spain in the East at Manila Bay on the morning of May 1, 1898, is of interest to a patriotic American. It is an unpretentious house, located at 1741 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W. Here Admiral George Dewey and his family live the ordinary home life of the average well-to-do American household. Admiral Dewey is ranking officer of the United States Navy.



WASHINGTON MONUMENT

The height from the floor of the entrance to the extreme tip of this graceful obelisk of white marble is five hundred and fifty-five feet, and it is the highest work of masonry in the world. It is situated on an elevation in Washington Park, a part of the Mall near Fourteenth Street. From the small windows near the apex a wonderful panoramic view of Washington and the surrounding country may be obtained.



PEACE MONUMENT

A splendid monument to perpetuate the memory of the "officers, seamen and marines of the United States Navy, who fell in defence of the Union and Liberty of their Country, 1861-1865" on Pennsylvania Avenue near the foot of Capitol Hill. The noble statue on the east side has given its name to the monument. It was executed by Franklin Simmons and erected in 1877.



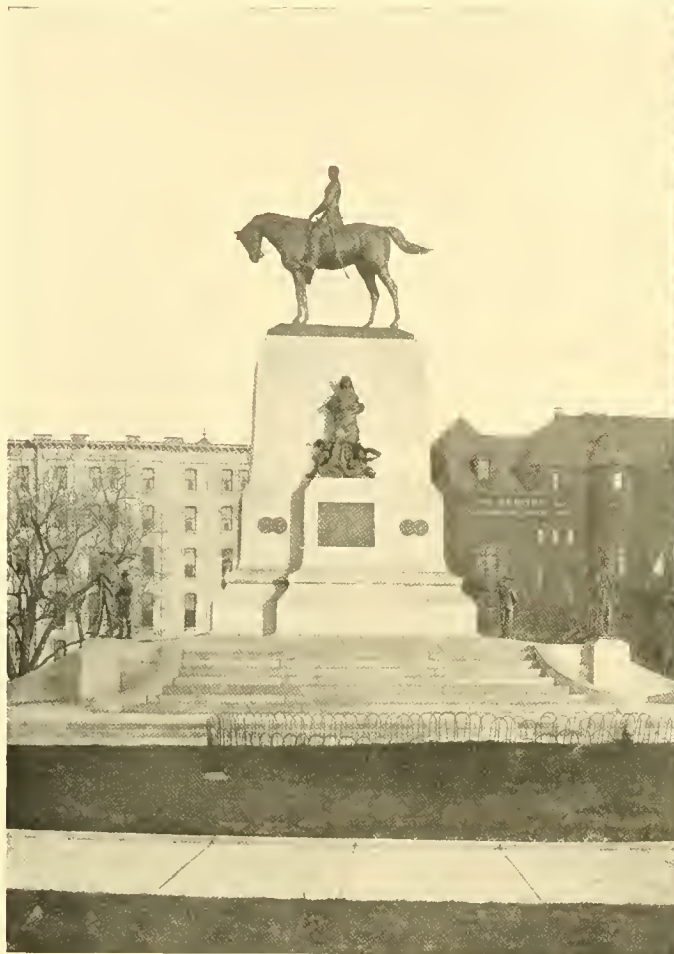
LAFAYETTE MONUMENT

The finely conceived marble and bronze monument to Lafayette and his compatriots who served with the American forces in the Revolutionary War, the work of two French sculptors, Antoine Falguiere and Antonin Merciier, occupies a spot in Lafayette Square, nearly opposite the White House. America offers the sword of liberty to the heroic figure of Lafayette. Rochambeau and Duportail flank one side and D'Estaing and DeGrasse the other.



A CHILLY WASHINGTON MORNING

Washington is rarely cold to excess, but it has been cold enough to freeze the Bartholdi Fountain at the foot of Capitol Hill. This fountain was designed by Auguste Bartholdi, famous for his "Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World" in the harbor of New York, and was placed here after the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, 1876.



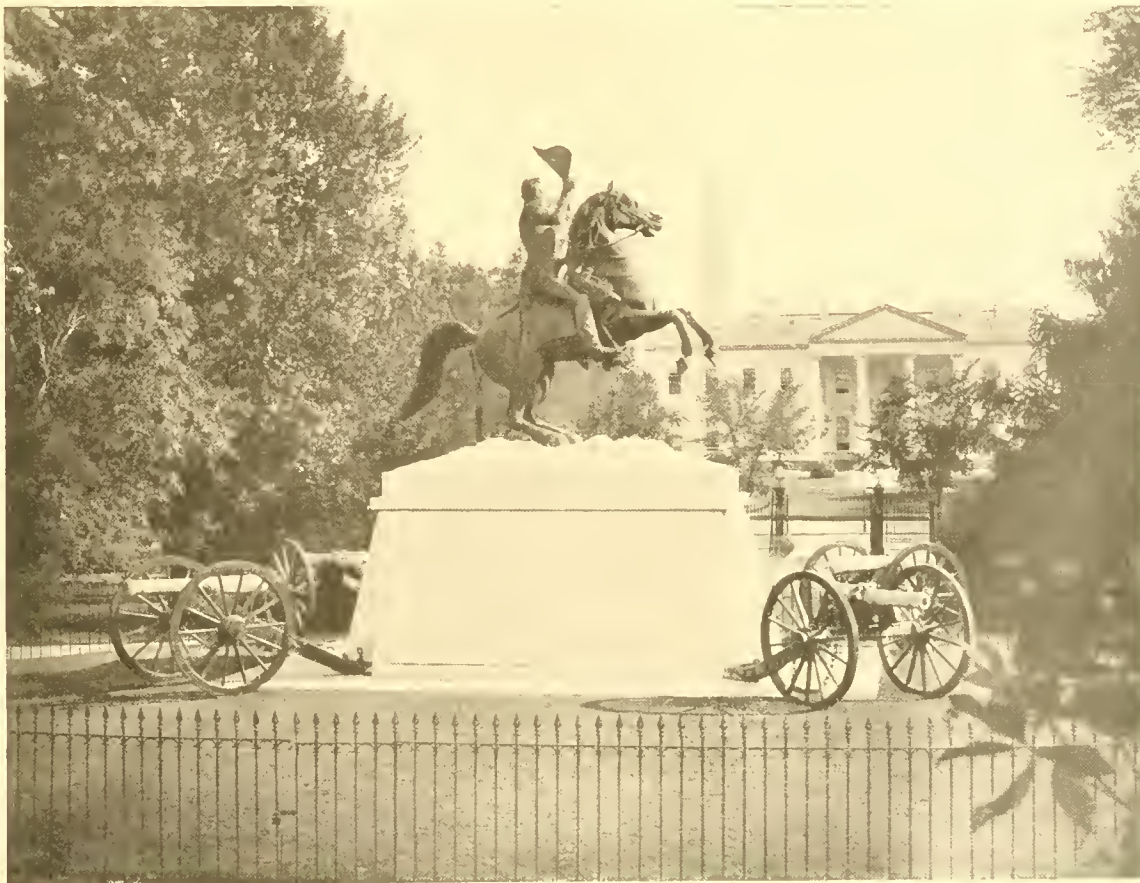
THE SHERMAN STATUE

This noble equestrian statue is located on Pennsylvania Avenue near the Treasury Building and is an impressive memorial to the great leader of the famous "March to the Sea," General William Tecumseh Sherman. It is the work of the sculptor, Carl Rohl-Smith.



THE ROCHAMBEAU STATUE

A wonderfully artistic piece of work commemorating the services of Comte Rochambeau during the Revolutionary War, which severed the bond between Great Britain and America. It was presented by the Republic of France to the United States in 1902. Designed by F. Hamer.



JACKSON STATUE

Cannon captured in Jackson's campaigns contributed the bronze from which this statue was made. It stands in Lafayette Square opposite the north front of the White House and is a specimen of the work of Clark Mills. It was unveiled on January 8, 1853, an anniversary of the battle of New Orleans—a glorious victory which decided the War of 1812 against Great Britain and made Jackson the idol of the people.



EMANCIPATION MONUMENT

A semi-heroic bronze group in Lincoln Square, one mile east of the Capitol. Abraham Lincoln is represented as offering the proclamation of freedom to a slave who has just been released from his fetters. It was designed by Thomas Bell and was unveiled April 14, 1876, an anniversary of Lincoln's assassination. The cost was met by the contributions of freedmen.



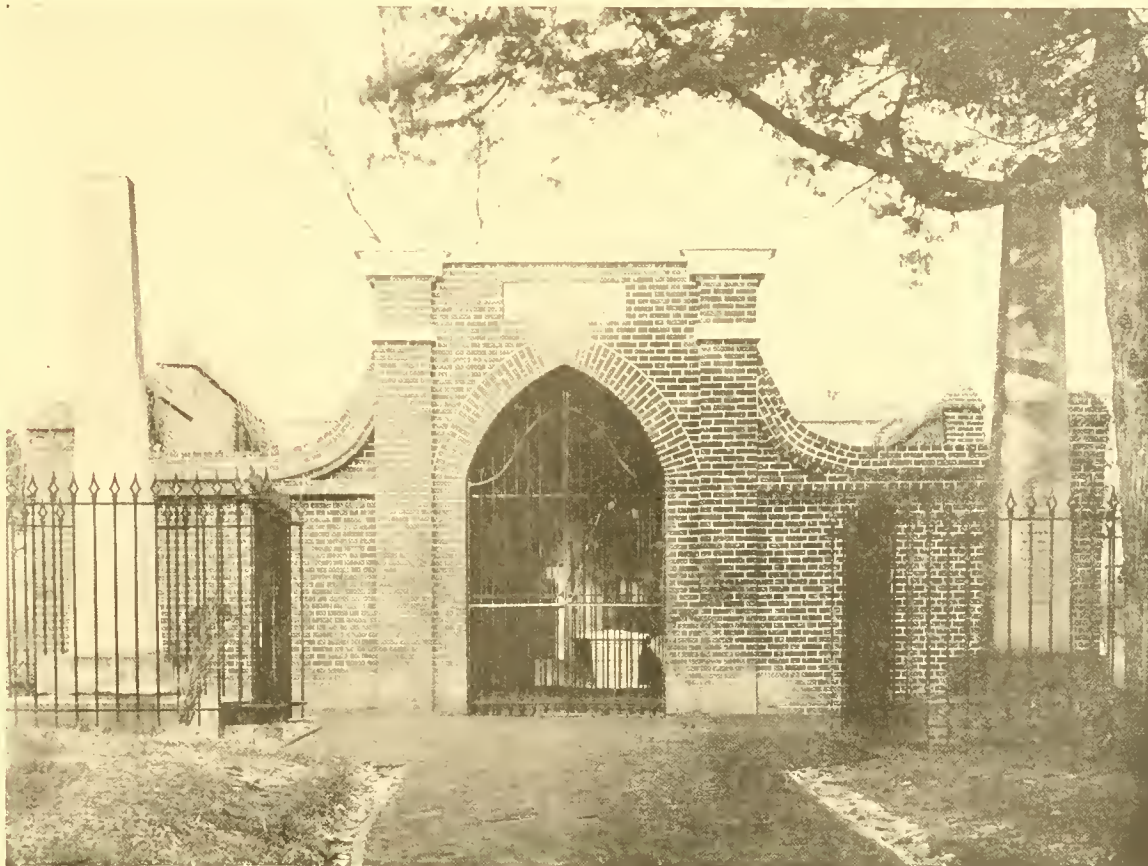
GARFIELD MONUMENT

This striking piece of work is regarded as one of the most successful efforts of the great sculptor, J. O. A. Ward. It stands on Maryland Ave. at the entrance to the Capitol Grounds and rises thirty feet high including a well-designed granite base and pedestal. The statue represents the lamented President in the act of delivering his inaugural address, March 4, 1881, and is erect and commanding in attitude.



GEORGE WASHINGTON'S HOME—MOUNT VERNON

The mansion House of Mount Vernon was built in 1743. It occupies one of the finest sites on the Potomac. The associations of this old house with the honored name of Washington, have made it a shrine of patriotism. Here are hundreds of relics of the great President, and the room in which he died is kept unchanged. The restoration, equipment and keeping of the several rooms are in the care of the women of the various States.



TOMB OF WASHINGTON—MOUNT VERNON

A plain brick structure with an arched gateway in front, above which an inscription upon a marble slab reads, "Within this enclosure rests the remains of General George Washington." The tomb of the first President seems to agree with what we know of the simple habits of the Father of his Country. In the antichamber may be seen two marble sarcophagi; the one on the right contains the body of Washington, the one on the left that of Martha, his wife.



ARLINGTON HOUSE

On entering the grounds of the Arlington National Cemetery by any of the gates one comes to this fine old mansion situated upon the brow of a hill overlooking the Potomac. It was built in 1802 by George Washington Parke Custis, Washington's adopted son, and on his death passed into the hands of Robert E. Lee, who left Arlington at the outbreak of the Civil War. The mansion is now occupied by the superintendent of the military cemetery.



GENERAL LOGAN'S TOMB, ARLINGTON CEMETERY

The gallant officers who served their country in the great Civil conflict are interred on the slope stretching to the east from the mansion in the Arlington National Cemetery. The mausoleum shown above, is the last resting place of General John A. Logan, of Ohio, who died in 1886. This brilliant writer and orator was a dashing Major-General during the war, and afterward for many years a striking personality in the United States Senate.



UNKNOWN DEAD—ARLINGTON CEMETERY

Nothing is known of these brave men, except that they fought for the perpetuation of the Union, and dying on the field of battle, lost even the reward of an individual record of their sacrifice. Yet they did not lose all, for so long as this granite monument endures, these nameless soldiers who fell on the bloody fields of Virginia will have a share in the reverent memory of the American people along with the great captains who lie buried at Arlington.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



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